Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for removing body fluids from a body cavity ~~(T)~~ by suction, comprising:

a catheter ~~means~~ having a drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ and an auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~ adapted for placement adjacent a wound in the body cavity ~~(T)~~ to be drained of body fluid, the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ having a proximal end being in fluid communication with a proximal end of the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~;

a ~~suction drainage collection means~~ container ~~(2)~~ for connection in fluid communication with the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ and for receiving body drainage fluid from the body cavity ~~(T)~~;

a source of suction (l) for effecting negative pressure in the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~; ~~and~~

~~means~~ a valve ~~(7)~~ for opening the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~ in order to supply air or gas to the body cavity ~~(T)~~; and

~~characterized in that~~

~~means~~ a controller ~~(9) are~~ provided to increase the pressure difference between a pressure in the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ and a pressure in the atmosphere when the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~ is open.

2. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the source of suction is a suction pump ~~(J)~~ and the ~~means for increasing the pressure difference is a~~ controller ~~(9) of the suction pump (I) which can increase~~ controls the suction power of the suction pump ~~(l)~~.

3. (currently amended) The apparatus of ~~one of~~ claim 1 ~~or 2~~, further comprising a first pressure sensor ~~(6)~~ measuring the pressure in the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~ and being in communication with the controller ~~means (9) for increasing the pressure difference~~.

4. (currently amended) The apparatus of ~~one of~~ claim 1 ~~to 3~~ wherein the ~~means (9) for increasing the pressure difference~~ controller is in communication with the ~~means~~ valve ~~(7)~~ for opening the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~.

5. (currently amended) The apparatus of ~~one of~~ claim 1 ~~to 3~~ wherein the pressure difference can be increased to achieve a negative pressure level in the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ being at least half of the negative pressure level during drainage.

6. (currently amended) The apparatus of ~~one of~~ claims 1 further comprising a means ~~(8)~~ for measuring the pressure in at least one of the group of the ~~suction drainage collection means~~ container ~~(2)~~ and the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~.

7. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein this means is a second pressure sensor ~~(8)~~.

8. (currently amended) The apparatus of one of claim 7, wherein the ~~means (9) for increasing the pressure difference are~~ controller is in communication with the second pressure sensor ~~(8)~~.

9. (currently amended) The apparatus of ~~one of~~ claims 1 ~~to 8~~ wherein the ~~means (9) for increasing the pressure difference~~ controller is increasing the pressure continuously.

10. (currently amended) The apparatus of ~~one of~~ claims 1 ~~to 9~~, wherein the ~~means (9) for increasing the pressure difference~~ controller is increasing the pressure abruptly.

11. (currently amended) A method for operating an apparatus for removing body fluids from a body cavity ~~(1)~~ by suction, the apparatus comprising:

a catheter ~~means~~ having a drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ and an auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~ adapted for placement adjacent a wound in the body cavity ~~(1)~~ to be drained of body fluid, the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ having a proximal end being in fluid communication with a proximal end of the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~;

a ~~suction drainage collection means~~ container ~~(2)~~ for connection in fluid communication with the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ and for receiving body drainage fluid from the body cavity ~~(1)~~;

a source of suction ~~(1)~~ for effecting negative pressure in the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ and

~~means~~ a valve ~~(7)~~ for opening the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~ in order to supply air or gas to the body cavity; ~~(1)~~

the method comprising the steps of

opening the auxiliary lumen; ~~(5)~~ and

increasing the pressure difference between a pressure in the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ and a pressure in the atmosphere.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the pressure difference is increased by increasing the power of the source of suction ~~(1)~~.

13. (currently amended) The method of ~~one of claims~~ claim 11 ~~or 12~~ wherein the pressure in the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~ is measured and the pressure difference is increased only when the pressure corresponds at least to atmospheric pressure.

14. (currently amended) The method of ~~one of claims~~ claim 11 ~~to 13~~ wherein the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~ is opened by opening a first valve ~~(7)~~.

15. (currently amended) The method of ~~claims~~ claim 11 ~~12, 13 and 14~~ wherein the source of suction ~~(1)~~ is control by a controller ~~(9)~~ and wherein ~~this~~ the controller ~~(9)~~ is in communication with at least one of the group of the valve ~~(7)~~ and a first pressure sensor ~~(6)~~ measuring the pressure in the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~.

16. (currently amended) A method for removing body fluids from a body cavity ~~(T)~~ by suction, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a catheter ~~means~~ having a drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ and an auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~ adapted for placement adjacent a wound in the body cavity ~~(T)~~ to be drained of body fluid, the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ having a proximal end being in fluid communication with a proximal end of the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~;

providing a ~~suction drainage collection means~~ container ~~(2)~~ for connection in fluid communication with the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ and for receiving body drainage fluid from the body cavity ~~(T)~~;

providing a source of suction ~~(1)~~ for effecting negative pressure in the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ and

providing a ~~means~~ a valve ~~(7)~~ for opening the auxiliary lumen ~~(5)~~ in order to supply air or gas to the body cavity ~~(T)~~

the method further comprising the steps of

opening the auxiliary lumen; ~~(5)~~ and

increasing the pressure difference between a pressure in the drainage lumen ~~(3)~~ and a pressure in the atmosphere.